

Bangladesh to exit Least Developed Country category in 2026

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BRUSSELS, Belgium - The Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA) has urged the European Union (EU) to continue providing support and assistance to Bangladesh to assist the country in a seamless transition and sustainable graduation from the least developed country (LDC) category.

On February 22, a BGMEA delegation led by President Farooq Hassan met with EwaSynowiec, Principal Adviser at the Trade Directorate, the European Commission.

Farooq Hassan described the European Union as a long-standing partner of Bangladesh, saying the EU is a trading partner and a good friend who has helped the country address various challenges on the development path.

While LDC graduation will present many new challenges for Bangladesh, he added that the country also has enormous opportunities. The EU can play a crucial role in enabling Bangladesh to capitalize on those opportunities.

The BGMEA delegation requested the EU's assistance in the coming days, particularly the extension of the EU's trade benefits to Bangladesh for another 12 years after the country graduates from LDC status in 2026.